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REG. S. [illegible] D. 3351 9. 3. 32

Major Fabre Here From North To Direct Concession Police

Captain Fiori Going On Long Leave March 26; Successor Made Enviable Record During 10 Years Service In Tientsin

Major Louis Fabre, former chief of the French Municipal Police at Tientsin, arrived in Shanghai Wednesday to take over the post of local director of the French Police, taking the place of Captain E. Fiori, who sails March 26 for his homeland on a year's leave of absence.

Major Fabre comes to Shanghai with a lengthy and distinguished career in the French police service back of him. He possesses a likeable personality and was one of the most popular members of the Tientsin foreign community.

Honored At Tientsin

Before leaving Tientsin last month, Major Fabre was the guest of honor at a gathering of the ex-Service Men's Associations in Tientsin. The Peking and Tientsin Times in its issue of February [illegible] reported this occasion as follows:

"Major Fabre, Chief of the French Municipal Police, left last night to take up his new post as Chief of Police in the French Concession at Shanghai. No member of the French colony is more popular with the international community. The tendency of the various national groups to withdraw to their own circles has become more pronounced in recent years. Major Fabre was one of the foremost influences in the [illegible] of that process. As Rugby footballer, tennis player, and all-round sportsman, he has furnished an invaluable link between the French and other communities—and more especially the British, with whom he was naturally closely associated in his activities as a sportsman.

Many Tributes

"Among the latter, indeed, he is regarded as one of themselves, and his departure will be [illegible] regretted by the British [illegible]. His [illegible] disposition [illegible] him a host of friends here. [illegible]

Many Fetes

"Captain Angeloni (who initiated the function) was the first of a series of speakers at this gathering. He spoke for the ex-Service Men's Associations in general, and the Italian body in particular. He opened by regretting the absence owing to illness of Dr. Colbert, head of the American Legion, which had made it necessary for him (Captain Angeloni) to torture them with his perfect Oxford accent. (Laughter.) He hoped, however, that the training their ears had during the war would help them in listening to his remarks. Major Fabre, or rather Louis, as we all know him, is leaving for Shanghai tonight to take over his new post. We are all very proud of the fact that the choice has fallen upon him, although we are going to miss him terribly. I am sure that he will keep us green in his mind as we shall our memories of him. He then asked all present to drink to Major Fabre, which the company did with enthusiasm.

"M. Rignot, speaking for the French ex-Service Men, spoke of the significance of the gesture made by all the comrades of the Great War, and of the great respect they all had for Major Fabre, who had served with valor and distinction. The widespread liking and esteem he enjoyed here was testimony to the sympathetic and efficient way in which he had carried out his duties and to his admirable personality. He wished him the best of success in his new sphere.

[illegible]

"M. Rignot also took occasion to bid farewell to [illegible]

"Major [illegible] Herbert, for the British United Services (Great War) Association, said that Major Fabre [illegible] friend of the Association [illegible]

Major Replies

"They belonged to an order and a generation for whom destiny had reserved a test and an ordeal of unparalleled severity. The experiences and the sufferings they had gone through in common constituted a tie that nothing could break and gave to the ex-Service Men's Associations a solidarity which was the envy of the associations and preserved valued contacts between the diverse groups.

"He was greatly moved by the fact that his departure from Tientsin was the occasion for that manifestation. He urged that more such gatherings of the ex-Service Men's Associations should be held in which all nationalities might come together and help and appreciate each other. Finally, he asked them to understand how much more there was in his heart than his lips could possibly utter on that occasion, and how deeply and sincerely he thanked them for their presence."

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For file

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